The Litchfield Enquirer

Is Published SVERT THURSDAY MORNING OF THE TRIBB FLOOR OF THE ENQUIRER BUILDING BY JAMES HUMPHRLY, Jr.

TERMS. SUBSCRIPTION PER ANNUM: Village subscribers (by carrier,) and single and mail subscribers, in bundles, IN AB-Postage Free within this County.

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M Alvergnat refers by permission to Rev. Joseph Eldridge, D. D and to Col. Robbins pattell.
Norfolk, Jan. 2, 1860. C. B. BISHOP & Co.,

DRY GOODS. READY MADE CLOTHING loots and Shoes. Hardware, ROCKERY, GROCERIES, &c. &c. LITCHFIELD, CONN.

Wretches swung that jurymen might dine, the judges not unfrequently resorted to what the law uptly enough termed the peine forte et dure-namely, "pressing to death" for refusing to plend. This system continued in vogue till 1772, when an act was passed1 25 by which any one refusing to plead should

In the good old times, when

CURIOSITIES OF JUSTICE

A CHEERFUL RETROSPECT.

From Chambers' Journal.

be deemed guilty, the same as though by verdict of a jury. The "press yard" at Fourteen lines or less -1, 2 or 8 weeks ... \$1 00 Newgate, and perhaps at other prisons, yet, we believe, retains its name, albeit it is no have before us a curious print representing a criminal in the act of being pressed to death. He is extended flat on his back, his arms and feet drawn apart at full stretch. and secured to staples in the floor; a piece of plank is on his body, and on that a number of heavy weights.

There seem to have been two kinds of criminals who formerly refused to plead to JOB AND CARD PRIATING

are not surpassed by any establishment in the state. We solicit the patronage of our friends and the public generally, with the arrange friends and been found guilty by the jury. The other class were ignorant, determined men, who foolishly imagined that by obstinately refusing to plead, they should eventually escape the punishment due to their offences.

When no argument could induce a man to plead, the judgment of the law was read over to him as he stood at the bar. It was thus worded: "That the prisoner shall be sent to the prison whence he came, and put into a mean room, stopped from the light, and shall there be laid on the bare ground, fore the church, whilst the bellman again without any litter, straw, or other covering. did his office by ringing his bell and repeatshall be covered, and his feet shall be bare, er, that a clergyman ought to have been, One of his arms shall be drawn with a cord and originally was, the reciter of the verses, to one side of the room, and the other arm for in the edition of S:owe's Survey of Lonto the other side; and his legs shall be don, printed in 1618, we read that "Robbe laid upon his body as much iron or stone London, gave to the parish church of St. as he can bear, and more! And the first Sepulchre's the summe of £50, that after day after, he shall have three morsels of the several sessions of London, when the barley bread, without any drink; and the prisoners remaine in the goale, as condemned next day he shall be allowed to drink as men to death, expecting execution on the much as he can at three times of the water morrow following ; the clarke [the elergythat is next the prison-door, except running- man] of the church should come in the nightwater, without any bread; and this shall be time, and likewise early in the morning, to OGRAMMES. SERMONS. his diet til he dies; and he against whom the window of the prison where they lye, this judgment shall be given, or felts his goods and there ringing certain toles with a hand-

inflicted was, we believe, upon a shipmaster, them in mind of their present condition, and charged with piracy, who, to save his land- ensuing execution, desiring them to be pre ed property to his family, remained mute pared therefore as they ought to be When

In January 1720, two highwaymen named Spiggot and Phillips, refresed to plead, and after certain toles, Spiggot and Phillips, refresed to plead, and after certain toles, when they were apprehended were restored to them. This was refused, and they, on their part, adhered to their resolution.

INDEX the management of the Rxv. Date the management of the church, there he standeth ready with the same bell, and after certain toles, which his feet, and the church the body of the Christon on in this way, and Mr. Clements had given the work in the prosecutor died before the day appointed, but which the church, there he standeth ready with the same bell, and after certain toles, the darkness the chances were that the body on in the transmit of the prosecutor died before the day appointed, but which the church, there he standeth ready with the same bell, and after certain toles, the church the sum management of the Rxv. Date the darkness the chances were that the body on in the transmit toles, the darkness the chances room at Newgate, Phillips was terrified, stop on its way to Tyburn, that the maleand begged to be taken back to plead, factors might be presented with a bowl of tion, or to hang in chains, he could dispose his mind, and wished to come back, he had Data built boat you don't see such now. Drawing Every savantage is afforded for obtainland accomplished educawhich, as a mercy, he was permitted to do, ale—their last draught on earth. This cusof it whilst living, for among the papers of only to give the rope a couple of pulls, and Terms moderate for board and tuition.

Terms moderate for board and tuition.

This custom prevailed in the county of York later that we'd haul him up directly. "No—no," sir—swept, with scarcely a sound, under the that we'd haul him up directly. "No—no," sir—swept, with scarcely a sound, under the that we'd haul him up directly. "No—no," sir—swept, with scarcely a sound, under the that we'd haul him up directly. "No—no," says Mr. Clements, "there's no necessity for arch into the cavern, her prove coming in found a letter, addressed to him by an un
Tress Dr. J. RICHARDS, Principal. weight of three hundred and fifty pounds "lost his life in consequence of declining the crton-Anger jail, and bearing date October a quarter of an hour; if at the end of that the ladies were. They did not hear her until the space of half an hour; if at the end of that

he cried out to be taken back to the court. cidentally thrown some water over him! ed with his piteous request.

RSION HOUSE.

LITCHIFIED, CONN.

LITCHIFIED, CONN.

CASE than the preceding occurred at Nothin; and so recorded was his conduct, that ting ham assizes in the year 1735. A poor it was necessary to chain him down, hand "witch." at Tring, in Hertfordshire. Here

awarding it until a future day, in the hope that he might in the meantime acquire a justiful ter sense of his situation." But this delay had not the intended effect. He refused to plend when next brought up, and was pressed to death two days subsequently in Kill-kenny market-place. "As the weights were heaping on the wretched man, he earnestly supplicated to be langed; but it being being substead of a post-chaise, presenting him running up to the horser yould the power of the sheriff to deviate from the mode of punishment prescribed in the canding that the death of the heads of a post-chaise, presenting a pistol when a lady is in danger of drowning, to was the struggle to release it, sir; Mr. Clements was a little boat astern of the legend in the was the struggle to release it, sir; Mr. Clements was a little boat astern of the legend in the when a lady is in danger of drowning, to when a lady is in danger of drowning, to seize her by the dress and not by the hair, which of ten times remains in their grasp. He will not of the individual of the tree one, which they drew to firm the one, when a lady is in danger of drowning, to seize her by the dress and not by the hair, which of ten times remains in their grasp. He will not of the individual of the procured some black cherries, and divert, which of ten times remains in their grasp. He will not of the individual of the tree one, which they drew to firm the one one, which they drew to firm the reck. All his when a lady is in danger of drowning, to seither too weak and faint, or the ments was cither too weak and faint, or the ments was cither too weak and faint, or the ments was cither too weak and faint, or the ments was cither too weak and faint, or the ments was cither too weak and faint, or the height structure and the procured some black cherries, and divert, which of ten times remains in their result only, and the ercuscion only, and the ercuscion only, and the rectal was the wall on the wild only the first the first of the ments was cither too weak and faint,

had expired. On the 10th of November, the spot, everybody present being witnesses the same year, eighteen were hanged in front of the deed. They died desperately wicked. on December I, nine more were hanged, all victed with a comrade, of robbing, in the for robberies and burgharies. The bodies of open fields, a poor tailor of twopence and his along the Downs, from the then retired, but murderers, we may remark, were almost in- clothes-which they stripped off, and bound variably given to the surgeons for dissec- him to a tree-adopted a most extraordination-nuless ordered to hang in chains-and ry expedient with a view to save his neck.

man of the parish of St. Sepulchre's to go when they told the king, that if he extendidenty; and, harrying back to the spot his wife." beneath the wails of Newgate on the night ed the royal mercy to the offender, they where he had first observed them, found, to prior to the execution of condemned con- would cast lots which should be his wife; but his extreme terror, that the boat had been

All you that in the condemned hold do lie, Prepare you, for to-morrow you shall die. Watch all, and pray; the hour is drawing near That you before th' Almighty must appear. Examine well yourselves; in time repent, That you may not t' eternal flames be sent. And when St. Sepulchre's bell to-morrow tolls. The Lord above have mercy on your souls!

. . He shall lie upon his back, his head ing several lines. It would appear, howevbell, appointed for the purpose, he doth af-The last time that this punishment was terwards (in most Christian manner) put

verdict of "Wilful and affected dumbness and the friends who came to result has been told.

result has been told.

result has been told.

the prisoner to plend, but has been told.

gallows bore profuse crops of awful fruit, fired at, while his companion was shot dead." and the hangman had incessant occupation. We are not surprised to learn that this man Now-a-days, one can hardly realize the fact died impenitent, "laughing and nocding" to that within the memory of many yet living, his acquaintances in the crowd on his way six, ten, fifteen, and even more men, were to Tyburn. A highwayman, somewhat rehanged at one time and one place! In a sembling him in character, actually shot book printed only about fifty years ago, we dead Mr. Spurling, the head-turnkey of the have an engraving, "an exact representation" it is called, of the "new scaffold" at the court! He did this because Spurling Newgate, with ten men hanging at once ! would not let him speak with a woman, an On the 23d of April, 1785, nineteen men acquaintance of his, then on her trial for were executed together, and not one for coining. The woman encouraged him to do murder! Most were hanged for robberies the deed, and the horror-stricken court inand burglaries, and no less than three for restantly arraigned them both for the murder, turning from transportation before their time of which they were of course convicted on

of Newgate, and not one for murder; and A robber named Hartley, who was conthey were publicly exposed to the gaze of "He procured six young women, dressed in wife and sister were in the frequent habit of young and old on the dissecting table of the white, to go to St. James's, and present a passing hours, in a little bay or irlet of the petition in his behalf The singularity of It was a very ancient custom for the bell- their appearance gained them admission, fused their request." He was hanged at Tyburn, May 4, 1722.

by the weight of his body, and felt his spir- spot where Mr. Clements descended. or glaring light, which seemed to go out of

ever, was pressed, and here the amazing dote is told of a saddler of Bawtry, who happy and friendless criminal, lying in Fish-

**S. Julien Eating Saloca

**TRE "LITCHFIELD HOUSE DUILDIN,"

LITCHFIELD, COXN.

**In every more of the teasuremendation of the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow propered for the accumumodation of the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow propered for the accumumodation of the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow proved for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow pounds was added, his forting. Jow proved for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow proved for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow proved for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided the seven was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of balf an hour, but when an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of the fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of the fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided for the space of the fifty pounds was added to have a did then make which hast good for the save and the hadies were. They did not the save was an until the ladies were. They did not the save with an additional fifty pounds was added, his forting. Jow provided was exclusive, and that we make the grant of the carge of a French sum, state of the fifty pounds was added to the save was an added to the save was an additional fifty pounds was added to the save was an additional fifty pounds was added to the save was an additional fifty pounds was WOLCOTT WREELER. Say that I was hanged in a dirty shirt and ranged coat." In vain was the dreadful alternative explained to him; he continued penatent prior to his execution. This boy from the grave. Your answer, sir, will sky. Pressing cautiously with his feet

The hardened young wreter interested the murder the clergyman who attended the Colley was executed and hung in chains for chest and face were flung violently against chest and face were flung violently against resture, commonly reputed to larce beam do deep and dumit from inlancy, was arraigned on an accusation of murder Two vitueses of on an accusation of murder Two vitueses of the work subsequently known to have rather the leaders of the one of the sun the size of two of the sun threat the leaders of two of the size of two of the leaders of two of the leaders of two of the size of two of the leaders of two of two of the leaders of two of th creature, commonly reputed to have been and foot, in his dangeon, and even then he deaf and dumb from infancy, was arraigned behaved in a frightful manner. We will he survived. The curious part, of the affair

From Bentley's Miscellany. THE SAMPHIRE GATHERER'S STORY.

BY ARTHUR HUME PLUNKETT.

"It was here, sir, that Mr. Clements de-"How fearful!" I exclaimed, scarcely

venturing to look down a precipice at least six hundred feet in depth. To repeat in a few words what had occu pied nearly hour, and omitting his numerous digressions, the samphire gatherer's tale ran

At the close of the last century he and his father, samphire gatherers by trade, had assisted in lowering one Mr. Clements down the cliff under rather extraordinary circumnow fashionable town of --recognized a bout about a mile from the sea near his house. He hastened home only to have all doubts removed as to their reeled, and fell exhausted into the arms of scribe what must have been their feelings

victs, and ringing his bell, to recite these his majesty said he was more deserving of deserted by its occupants, who had been seen the gallows than a wife, and accordingly re- wandering on the rocks under the cliff. To approach them by the sea on either side in time to rescue them from their impending One would naturally suppose that a man danger was impossible. The tide was rising who had suffered all the horrors of hanging, fast, and their destruction appeared to be just short of actual death, would never risk inevitable. In this emergency the samphire the gallows again; but such, in one case at gatherers were thought of, and sought for ; least, was not the result. A house-breaker and, declining all their offers, Clements innamed Smith was hanged at Tyburn, De- sisted upon descending the cliff, in the hope cember 24, 1705, and when he had hung of placing his wife upon some rock or spot St. Sepulchre's bell tolled on the morning cember 24, 1705, and when he had hung of placing his wife upon some rock or spot that it had been carried away by the rising where she might remain in safety till the tide which now partly covered the rocks. "A reprieve!" He was cut down, bled, arrival of the boats from -. Thus far and recovered! When asked what his feel- had the samphire gatherer got in his story ings had been, he replied, in substance, that which he was relating to me as I was stroll-"when he was turned off, he for some time ing along the cliffs, when he pansed, as I was sensible of very great pain, occasioned have already mentioned, and pointed to the

served in the like manner. Then there shall ert Done, Citizen and Merchant Taylor of upwards; that having forced their way to on the grass near him, the old man contin his head, he, as it were, saw a great blaze ued his tale. I give it in his own words.

"Well, sir; when we found we could not the eyes with a flash, and then he lost all persuade him to let one of us go down in his water usually rose. sense of pain. That after he was cut down, place, father, as usual, secured a crow bar and began to come to himself, the blood and into the earth, a few feet from the edge of could have wished those hanged who had arms. We then made him change his coat

stubbernly mute, and was taken to the press-room, and bore a weight of two hund- Whittlesea, by killing a child aged twelve, We are not aware what crime Brooke had angles with the chiff; his hands grasping the red and fifty pounds for seven minutes, when in revenge for the child's mother having ac committed, nor whether the surgeon compli-

He there pleaded "Not guilty," but was convicted and hanged.

The hardened young wretch threatened to when, suddenly slipping from the cliff, his when, suddenly slipping from the cliff, his converted and hanged.

Amida and Mardin-on-the-11m. The later difference to when suddenly slipping from the cliff, his cliff, his into the end of the best. They couldn't converted and hanged the cliff, his into the end of the best. They couldn't converted and hanged the cliff, his into the end of the best converted and hanged. A far more remarkable and more cruel jail, and any one clse who dared to approach being a ringleader of a mob who ducked a it. He endeavored to regain his footing broke witch," at Tring, in Hertfordshire. Her through a resolution which he had formed,

his flesh all sore and torn, and his body and arms in absolute torture from the pressure was a lost job, and that they could go no embraces the chamber in question was built the prisoner to plend; but he still pretended to intoxeate the whole party. We could give many curious anecdotes of the actions but the judges compassionately described in the judges on this described in the judges on the judges on this described in the judges on the judges on this described in the judges on the judges on this described in the judges of the local state of the forth of the judges on this described in the judges on the judges of the judges of the local state of the could not into the judges on the judges of the local state of the could not into the judges of the local state of the could not into the judges of the local state of the could not into the judges of the local state of the judges of the local state of the judges of the loca

from the mode of punishment prescribed in the sentence, even this was an indulgence which could no longer be granted to him!"

The devise has a state of nakedness.

The devise has sering to deviate at the driver; another, where he was firing at the chaise; a third, where he was firing at the driver; another, where he was firing at the driver.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the mutual another which age the prescribed in the passage.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the driver.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the mutual another which age the prescribed in the passage.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the driver.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the driver.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the driver.

The devils had scottled the boat, and it was the drive

must either smim or drown ; he feebly grasp- that drendful night." ed the rope ; a thrill of joy ran through his "What became of Mr. Clements when veins as he found an unexpected footing on a rock concealed by the waves in about "He held on to the boat for a few min-

made an effort to swim ; found that he had gatherer, touching his hat to me. "I must more strength than he had thought-wam he going homewards Mayhap," he added, forward through the darkness up the cav- as he turned away on his path, "one of shore, strongly resembling one in which his ern; struggled-sank-rese again-heard these days, when you are strolling on the his name called londer and nearer-made rocks below, sir, you will look at the cavern sand under his feet-staggered forward- can imagine much better than I can de-

" And his wife ?"

"The ladies were both there, sir. The REMARKABLE DISCOVERY AT cavern was about fifty feet in depth, sloping with weeds, stones, and sand. Here Mrs. Clements and her sister had been driven to take refuge by the rising tide. They had landed from the boat on the rocks, at some distance below the cave, in the hope of finding a pathway or outlet, by which they could escape up the cliff. After a long and hopeless search, they bethought them of the tide, which now partly covered the rocks. They had just time to climb into the cavern over the fallen rocks under the are's, when the waters sweeping in, closed up all entrance to any but a swimmer. Although the tide was fast rising, the ladies cheered its in a strange commotion, violently pressing Following his example, and taking a scat each other with the hope that they should many continuous formula their war to back of the cavern was sufficient to prevent the same direction resulted in the exposure their discovering the height to which the

" As you may imagine Mr. Clements was some time before he recovered his senses. spirits forcing themselves into their former the cliff; and then twining a rope once His wife was kneeling beside him, chafing channels, put him, by a sort of pricking or round it, in order to give us the steadier his brows, when her sister, starting up, callshooting, to such intolerable pain, that he hold on Mr. Clements, fastened it under his ed their attention to the rope by which he had descended. We were pulling it up; cut him down." Ever afterwards, he went for one of our freeks, such as you see the and he shook his head as it disappeared over by the name of "half-hanged Smith." This common people wear in these parts; and the arch of the cavern. Well, he knew Macchi, who invited me to inspect it, and by fellow soon returned to his former evil habits, and was again tried at the Old Bailey for house-breaking; but the jury brought in and made him take the rope between his common people wear in these parts; and how useless it would have been for them to whose permission I procured a copy to be made, which is herewith enclosed. It is needless to say that this event has elicited a special verdict, leaving the affair to the hands just above the knot, and told him to decision of the twelve judges, who decided lean out from the rock as far as he could, their spirits up, while he well knew that in when called upon to plend.

In January 1720, two highwaymen named

JAMES HUMPHREY, Jz.

The part of the well and brought before the standeth ready with the same bell, and after certain toles.

The part of the well and the well and the well knew that in wonderful escape did not deter him from re
they are in the cart, and brought before the wall of the church, there he standeth ready wonderful escape did not deter him from re
they are in the cart, and brought before the wall of the church, there he standeth ready wonderful escape did not deter him from re
they are in the cart, and brought before the wall of the church, there he standeth ready wonderful escape did not deter him from re
to look up, and keep a watch out for the wonld never find the cave.

of stones and dirt which it dislodged. He turned to the opening of the covern, watch-

and released Mr. Clements from his painful Clement's voice sounded almost at her side! situation. From this moment, he told me. There he was, sir-there he was, in the selfhe was unconscious as to whether he was same little pleasure-boat which had been the ascending or descending, until he heard his cause of all their misfortunes. He had name called in a faint voice. He opened his just time to lift the ladies out of the boat, eyes. We had lowered him over the arch and to get clear of her, when she went down. of an immense cavern, within which all was The revenue-cutter came up, and took them darkness. The sea was rolling in beneath on board all alive; but many months passed him ; his feet touched it ; he felt that he before Mrs. Clements recovered the events of

three feet water ; the depth around for the ntes till they got outside, and then swam to present mattered not. He remained for a the rocks, where he found the little pleasurefew moments motionless on the rock. His boat, and entering it, followed in the truck name was again called; it sounded from of the larger vessel in time to save the l'fe of Mrs. Clements and that of her sister. "Extricating himself from the rope, he The sun is setting, sir," said the samplire-

> evening, sir." ROME.

in such a place, and at such a time. Good

THE PALACE OF THE CLESARS AN EVI-DENCE OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY. LETTER FROM LEWIS CASS, Jr.

The Detroit Advertiser of March 24th publishes a private letter written by Lewis Cass, Jr., to Rev. Mr. Duffield, of Detroit. From this letter we make the following interesting extracts:

MILAN, February 14, 1860. REV. GEORGE DUFFIELD, D. D .-- Dear Sir: In fulfillment of my promise, I proceed to give you a brief account of the discovery, at Rome, of an ancient representation of a

In the progress of the excavations on the Palatin, where stood the House of Gold of the Cæsars, a fragment of an arch, covered with inscriptions and delineations, was brought to view. Further explorations in of a room, on the walls of which was found a sketch, cut or engraved with a sharp pointed instrument, of a crucifix, together with the figure of a man in the attitude of prayer, standing near it. The announcement of this discovery created great interest. By order of the Pope, the design was removed from its position, happily without injury, and confided to the care of Monsignore general discrepancy, the conflicting views scription, "Alexander adores God," The execution of the engraving, as you will perceive from the fac-simile, of which the scale

would have left the poor things to drown. Africa, then filled with rich and splendid or have murdered them. No; Mr. Cle- cities, this was the popular behef. It was ments knew better. He tried a last and inculeated in the Magian school of Asia, dangerous chance; but it was his only one. from the sames of Parthia to the Pisidian Listen, sir : while the men had their heads forests, and levelled at the converts to the ing the boat pass, the sight of which had Amida and Mardin-on-the-Hill. The later tly into the end of the boat. They couldn't sects of Bardesanes, omitted no occasion to hear him for the noise of the waves; there disseminate this calumny, accompanied with was plenty of room for them, and he drew a every epithet of contempt and detestation, sail over them, and was just stepping in At Orfa it was proclaimed from the throne